

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-8 are pending in the application.

**Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)**

Claims 1-8 stand provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by copending Application Nos. 10/690,955 and 10/690,751. The parent applications of which, U.S. Application Nos. 10/160,463 and 10/160,361 were filed May 31, 2002.

Applicants submit herewith, a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.131 by Richard Roesler, one of the present inventors. In his declaration, Mr. Roesler shows that the present invention was conceived and reduced to practice before May 31, 2002, the filing date of the parent applications of the cited U.S. patent applications.

As the present invention was conceived and reduced to practice before the filing date of the cited applications, they are not valid references under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and the provisional rejection should be withdrawn.

**Nonstatutory Double Patenting Rejections**


Claims 1-8 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 13, 14, 19, 20 and 25 of Application Serial No. 10/690,955, Claims 1-25 of Application Serial No. 10/690,751, Claims 1-17 of Application Serial No. 10/690,954, and Claims 1-17 of Application Serial No. 10/690,956.

Applicants submit herewith appropriate Terminal Disclaimers, which overcome the double patenting rejections.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above remarks, Applicants assert that the claims are in form for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of Claims 1-8 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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